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Economic Services Division

Committee on China

NSA & DIA Declassification/Release Instructions on File

(Minutes of the Twenty-Fourth Meeting -- 0930 hours, 10 March 1955)

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Present: Messrs: [REDACTED]

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Guests: Messrs: [REDACTED]

and [REDACTED]

St/I

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[REDACTED] reported on a meeting with St/I at which plans for revision of the FDD exploitation program were discussed. There was no major objection to combining the present economic, sociological, and economic reports into one report, provided that the items are properly separated within the report and there are enough copies circulated. The question of putting out the material on cards was raised, but no conclusion reached. Against the greater ease of handling was placed the inability to recover old cards through intellofax or other means. It was also pointed out that when FBID changed the format of its economic abstracts from a booklet to cards, the volume of material dropped sharply.

It was recommended that if the index of Chinese newspapers is dropped, FDD should be requested to revive the annotated bibliography of monographs.

FDD plans to put out a quarterly summary based on scientific and technical periodicals.

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FDD has requested comments on the monthly information report on [REDACTED]. Please submit to the Chairman if you have any comments.

The following items of current significance were discussed:

1. Although a schedule of 1 train each way per day on the Hanoi-Langson line has been announced, there is still some doubt as to the serviceability of the line for regularly scheduled traffic.

2. There is evidence that the Vietminh have been attempting to purchase rice from South Vietnam, and one shipment of 3,000 tons has been revealed.

3. The Air Attache at Saigon has forwarded a report

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that 10-15 Russians are working at the Hanoi Airfield. There are known to be Chinese and Poles at this field, and some of the latter may have been mistaken for Russians.

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& NSA
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7. Two new maps of China are available through the map library, one showing new provincial boundaries, and another showing the autonomous areas.

8. The number of agricultural producer cooperatives in China has now reached 580,000, according to Peking Radio. This is somewhat ahead of the schedule announced by Chou En-lai in September, which called for 500,000 by the start of the 1955 spring plowing season. It was noted previously that one source claimed that some mutual-aid teams were being designated as bona fide cooperatives in order to boost the total. Radio Peking on 9 March called for a halt in the organization of new cooperatives before the spring cultivation.

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